

REMARKS

Claim 18 has been amended to include “a fluid device comprising an outlet adapted to be engaged with an aperture in the substrate to deliver fluid through the aperture to generate a detaching force between the film of material and the substrate.” This amendment is supported by the specification on page 2, lines 5-11. Claim 5 has been amended to remove information now present in claim 18.

Claims 18 and 21-23 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Earle. Claims 18 and 21-23 also stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Ametani. These rejections are respectfully traversed. Claim 18 has been amended to include “a fluid device comprising an outlet adapted to be engaged with an aperture in the substrate to deliver fluid through the aperture to generate a detaching force between the film of material and the substrate.” Neither the device described in Earle nor the device described in Ametani include a fluid delivery device as presently claimed. Accordingly, the rejections of claim 18 should be withdrawn. The rejections of claim 21-23, which depend from claim 18, should be withdrawn for at least the same reason.

Claims 5-7 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Earle, and/or Ametani in view of Seki. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 5-7 depend from claim 18 and, therefore, includes the claimed fluid delivery device discussed above. As explained above, both Earle and Ametani fail to disclose the claimed fluid delivery device. The Examiner states that Seki discloses a fluid device including “an outlet adapted to be engaged with an aperture in the substrate.” This is incorrect. Seki describes using a projection to mechanically raise an end of a film stuck on a base. A fluid injection device peels the film off the base by sending a jet of fluid to the end of the film that has been raised (col1, lines 44-57). Seki does not describe an aperture in the substrate as claimed in claims 5-7. Using an aperture in the substrate, as claimed, to deliver the fluid allows the film to be detached without the need to mechanically raise an

end of the film by force during initial detachment, which may damage the film. For the foregoing reasons, the rejection of claims 5-7 under 35 USC 103(a) should be withdrawn.

For the forgoing reasons, a notice of allowance is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing 532432000300.

Dated: August 6, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Jonathan Bockman
Registration No. 45,640
Morrison & Foerster LLP
1650 Tysons Blvd., Suite 300
McLean, VA 22012
Telephone: (703) 760-7748
Facsimile: (703) 760-7777